

Grace Lutheran Church

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Praying through Your Midnight

Jesus believed in the power of prayer. The gospel stories show him to be prayerful before most of the major decisions of his ministry—like the choosing of his disciples, praying before miracles or healings, or his prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane before his crucifixion. His disciples were so impressed with his prayer life that they asked Jesus to teach them to pray. Out of that request, the Lord’s Prayer has been passed down to us. In today’s gospel, Jesus tells those who are listening “a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart” (Luke 18:1). Perhaps this story comes to you at a time when you and your prayer life are going through a time of struggle. Perhaps you are having difficulty hearing from God, which might make you wonder if God is having a hard time hearing you—or from you. Our conversation modes with God can often feel interrupted by our fear, impatience, lost hope, anxiety, or a sense that our time may be running out in a particular situation that we have been praying about but don’t seem to be receiving an answer to. Sometimes we can feel as though we are in a midnight hour with God and our prayer life.

Jesus acknowledges our midnight hours, our crises of faith, and our tendencies to lose hope. They are human tendencies that Jesus in his humanness knows all about. Anyone who can scream from the cross “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34) knows full well what a midnight hour in prayer feels like.

Jesus uses the reverse example of an unjust judge to point to a God of love and justice, and encourages us to keep faith with that God even in the midnight hours of our prayer life.

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BEFORE WORSHIP

Our Participation Card has two sides to complete. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees.

22th Sunday after Pentecost

October 16, 2016

Pentecost is a season for growing represented by the color green. We celebrate the founding of the church and the fruits of the Spirit.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre-service Music

A Grand Celebration

Grace Notes

10:45 Open Our Eyes

Clapper Kids

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able.

Gathering Music

Lead Me, Guide Me

ELW 768 (red book)

Greeting

☞ Blessed be the Holy Trinity; one God; the only sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

☞ **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

▲ Let us pray . . . O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries.

☞ **Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading:

Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

📖 A reading from **Genesis:**

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?"

And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

▲ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

8:00 am w/Grace Notes



My help comes from the LORD, the mak- er of heav - en and earth.



¹I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?

²**My help comes | from the LORD,
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keep- | er of Israel
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;** ☒

⁵the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike | you by day,
nor the | moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,
from this time forth for- | evermore.** ☒

Special Music

I Must Tell Jesus

Grace Notes

Second Reading:

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Paul continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

☒ A reading from **2 Timothy**:

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires,

⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

A The word of the Lord.

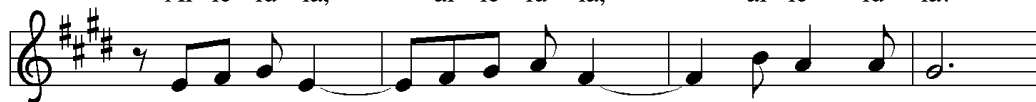
G Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able.

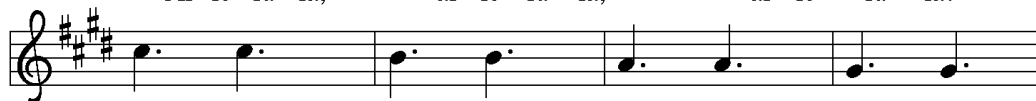
Gospel Acclamation



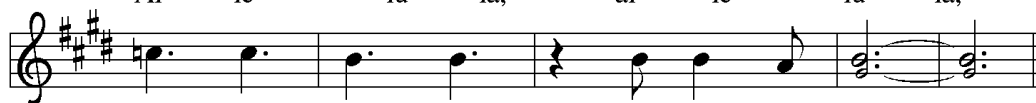
¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading:

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of a hateful judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

P The Gospel according to **Luke**.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?"⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?

- Ⓟ The Gospel of the Lord.
- Ⓞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children's Message/Children's Church

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children's sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children's message.

Message

Stand as you are able.

Song of the Day

Give Me Jesus

ELW 770 (red book)

Kneel or sit as you are able.

The Prayers

Ⓜ Set free by the truth of God's gracious love, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

Ⓜ Protector of all, you guard your people from evil. Help your church to provide sanctuary for all who are in need. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Sarah; our companion churches in the world, North Ottawa Synodical Authorized Worship Community in Grand Haven, Doster Community Refromed Church in Plainwell; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul. Hear us, O God.

Ⓞ **Your mercy is great.**

Ⓜ Creator of all, you made the sun, the moon, and the stars. Bless efforts to restore clean air, that your pure light may shine in the world. Hear us, O God.

Ⓞ **Your mercy is great.**

Ⓜ Keeper of all life, you provide justice for the nations. Call upon leaders and judges, lawyers and advocates to proclaim your justice where injustice rules. Protect those who serve in the military, especially Myrina Clements, Kayla Pohl, Joshua Wright, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten. Hear us, O God.

Ⓞ **Your mercy is great.**

Ⓜ Nurturing healer, you reach out to those who have lost heart. Ease their suffering, relieve their pain, comfort the dying, and calm the troubled. Comfort all in need in body, mind, or spirit, especially *Greg and Danny Gillons, Wes and Opal Gillons, Carol Vos, Sue Rider, John Burdick, Corrina and Hope Palmer, Elsie Merrow, George Ulrich Jr and Debra Wood*. Hear us, O God.

Ⓞ **Your mercy is great.**

Ⓜ God of unfailing love, you are our first and best teacher. Guide all who teach in schools, homes, churches, seminaries, and in public life. Let your love shine forth in their teaching. Hear us, O God.

Ⓞ **Your mercy is great.**

Ⓜ Gracious God, hear the individual petitions we lift to you in loud voice or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Hear us, O God.

G **Your mercy is great.**

A Holy One, you bless all those who cry out to you. We give thanks for the persistent witness of your blessed saints who now rest in your just and righteous presence. Hear us, O God.

G **Your mercy is great.**

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

G **Amen.**

Stand as you are able.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

G **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.)

Sit

Offering of Gifts & Music 10:45 Seek Ye First

Clapper Kids

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill it out and place a Participation Card in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

Stand as you are able.

Offertory Hymn

God Extends an Invitation

ELW 486 (red book)

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray . . . Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread,

G **so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

G **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



San - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.

Eucharistic Prayer

☞ Holy God, Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and you fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

☞ **You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.**

☞ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave,

☞ **we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.**

☞ By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

☞ **strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.**

☞ Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,

☞ **both now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

☞ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:

☞ **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion:

☞ Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

Sit

Lamb of God



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



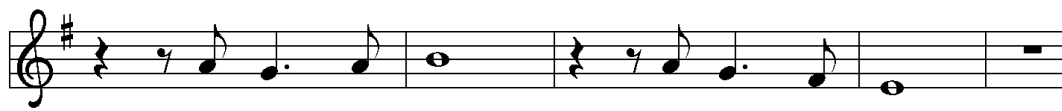
Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Lord Listen To Your Children Praying

ELW 752 (red book)

Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me

ELW 767

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

ELW 759

Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray . . . We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ.

G **Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

Announcements

Stand as you are able

All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.

Sending Hymn

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Devine

ELW 774 (red book)

Sending

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Second service only

After the closing hymn and the sending, children and young at heart are invited for an up-close look at the chimes and bells. PLEASE DO come up around the bell tables and watch us ring.

Anyone interested is welcome to try out the instruments with the help of the ringers.

If you forgot to place your Participation Card in the offering plate, you can still drop it off in the basket outside the sanctuary.

Stewardship Information

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of sugar and canned pasta, ie, spaghetti-o's, ravioli, etc. Donations can be placed in the box outside Pastor Paul's office.

Worshippers last week: 90 Weekly Giving: \$2,514.00 Budget Amount: \$4,226.98

Children at the 10:45 service will be invited to participate in Children's Church after the Children's Sermon. They will return with the leader at the time of the Passing of the Peace.

GraceGram articles for November are due no later than **October 17**. Please send your articles to parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

Fifth Sunday Pitch In (Potluck) Sunday, **October 30**. Come celebrate REFORMATION & CONFIRMATION right after 10:00 service. Please sign up for a dish that you can share at this Friends and Fellowship Meal. Volunteers are also needed to help with setup and kitchen clean up on this day.

Trunk-O-Treat - We are planning a return performance of this important outreach program on **October 31**. Hundreds of children and their parents graciously enter our building, giving us the opportunity to welcome them, give them free gifts, and send them on their way with the blessing of the Body of Christ. If you would like to attend one of the 10 doorways we use to give out candy, and/or help decorate a doorway, sign upon the wall by the candy container. We need your help!

Candy, Candy, Candy! – What is Halloween without candy? We invite you to donate bags and bags of candy so that the kids who visit us have a pleasant welcome to our generosity. Bring your donated candy to church and place it in the decorated plastic container in the Gathering Place.

Pasty Sale – Saturday, **November 12**. Sign-up sheet is on the wall outside of Pastor Paul's office, for baked pasties \$7/each, or unbaked pasties \$6/each. There is also a sign-up sheet for helping with the preparation, cutting, making & baking of the pasties. See the sheet for times and dates. Grace is hoping to pre-sell up to 450 pasties this year with the funds going to support Grace youth activities, so tell your friends, tell your neighbors and get those pre-orders in!

Lifetouch photos – if you had your individual or family photo taken and the complimentary photo was not shipped to your home, they are available today on the table in the Gathering Space.

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:00am
Assisting Ministers	Barry Wood	Phil Poholski
Cantor	Mark Anton	Kate Watson
Lector	Mary Kuhlman	Kristi Winick
Communion Server	Mark Anton	Sandy Mosteller
Acolyte/Crucifer	Katie Pohl	Hope Peck
Usher	Mark Anton	Mark Anton, volunteers
	John Burdick, Kay Marsh	Sandy Mosteller
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Tom/Cheryl Drum	John/Mary Kleinbrink
Nursery	Volunteers	Children's Church
		Traci Wales, Kristi Winick
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, October 23, 2016

Assisting Ministers	Steve Kaiser	Vickey Argo
Cantor	Jack Vos	Myrina Clements
Lector	Lorie Gladyness	Victoria Steadman
Communion Server	Jana Bishop	Mark Anton
Acolyte/Crucifer	Gavin Patton	Gabe Barnaart
Usher	Mark/Jana Bishop	Mark Anton, Dave Neeb
	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Ed Domke
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Chris Bush	Doug/Diane Neeb
Nursery	Volunteers	Children's Church
		Kim Domke, Lisa Pohl
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mary Kleinbrink

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, October 16	Adult Forum – Parables 9:30 am Children's Church 10:45 am New Member Class 12:00 pm
Monday, October 17	Adult Forum 6:00 pm GraceGram article deadline
Tuesday, October 18	Council meeting 6:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday, October 19	Prayer group 6:00 pm
Thursday, October 20	Clapper Kids 3:45-5:00 pm Grace Notes 5:45-7:00 pm